Application No. 10/087,399

Amendment dated December 13, 2006

Reply to Office Action of September 14, 2006

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached five sheets of drawings include changes to Fig. 1-7. These five sheets, which include Figs. 1-7, replace the original five sheets of drawings.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated September 14, 2006, in which the Examiner (1) objected to the drawings (Fig. 3 being inconsistent with the specification as to "network 30" and "network 31"), (2) objected to the specification for the same reason, (3) rejected claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, (4) rejected claims 1, 13, 14, 22, 2, 15, 23, 28, 46, 50, 3, 16, 24, 29, 47, 4, 17, 25, 30, 48, 6, 7, 33, 8, 34, 40, 9, 35, 41, 10, 36, 42, 12, 38, 44, 21, 27, 32, 39, 45 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0061012 A1 ("Thi") in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,089,485 B2 ("Azadet"), (5) rejected claims 5, 11, 31, 37 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Thi and Azadet as applied above, and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0109887 A1 ("Aburakawa"), and (6) objected to claims 18-20 and 26 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By the present Amendment, Applicant has amended paragraph 25 of the Specification to correct a clerical error by changing "network 30" to "network 31," thereby overcoming the objection to both the Drawings and Specification, and providing correspondence between the drawings and the specification as to the term "network 31." Applicant also submits herewith formal drawings to replace the drawings originally submitted with the application. No changes have been made or new matter added to the formal drawings.

Claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 18 (and intervening claim 14), and claim 21 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 26. Since claims 18 and 26 were indicated as containing allowable subject matter, amended claims 13 and 21 (and their depending claims) are now believed to be allowable.

Applicant has also amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 6 (as well as additional limitations), now reciting subject matter similar to claims 18 and 26. Claim 1 is, thus, believed allowable for the same reasons as stated for claims 18 and 26. Claims 7 and 15 have been amended for proper dependency, and claims 6, 14, 18 and 26-50 have been canceled.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 13, 2006 /Stephen F. Jewett/

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